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Out of the Desert

Cacti and Succulents

1925-1926

(The) Desert Garden

W. I. BEECROFT

Escondido, California

"In the land of little rain"



Important

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Correspondence solicited.

To My Friends and Customers



This little catalog is presented in the hope that it will meet with the approval of plant lovers, particularly those who take pleasure in growing the rare and unusual in plant life.

The absence of illustrations is to be regretted since descriptions are inadequate to convey a proper idea of the various plant forms. Owing to the conditions occasioned by the war, and quarantine regulations, foreign plants have become exceedingly scarce. One must pick them up here and there wherever they can be found. Consequently my list is not as complete as it might be. Although I have over 200 different species of cacti and succulents, in many cases I have but two or three of a kind, or even a single specimen. But with my stock constantly increasing in number and variety, I hope, in the near future, to issue a more comprehensive and well illustrated catalog.

Every species here represented has been selected for its desirability for the conservatory or house cultivation in the North, or planting out in the South. Many will make fine decorative specimens in the course of years. Small as it is, this list is unique in being the only thing of its kind at the present time. It embraces a variety of plants not found in any other catalog, and, all things considered, the prices are very reasonable.

The nomenclature is mainly that of The Standard Cyclopedia of Horticulture, 1925 edition.

Cacti

The cactus is a truly American plant. It ranges from British Columbia to the southern countries of South America. Cacti are of easy culture in most cases, and their diverse and curious forms make them always objects of interest.

A little good garden soil mixed with plenty of sand makes a good potting material, though some species require a richer soil. Among these are the Epiphyllums and Zygocacti. As a rule the globular sorts are natives of arid regions and a sandy soil suits them best.

APOROCACTUS

A. FLAGELLIFORMIS. Rat-tail Cactus. A very popular species. Stems numerous, springing from the base, pendulous, about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. in diameter and growing to a considerable length. Flowers rosy. Often grafted on the upright stem of other species to display it to better advantage.

Single stems, 35 cents. No grafted specimens at present.

ARIOCARPUS

A. FISSURATUS. Living Rock. Low, flat-topped, up to 5 inches in diameter, covered with tubercles triangular in outline and tapering into a thick root. Flowers whitish to rose. A very strange plant and always regarded with curiosity. 50 to 75 cents.

CEREUS

C. COLUBRINUS. Tall and slender, up to 6 feet in height and $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter. Branching from the base. Flowers white, very fragrant, nocturnal. Six to 8 inches, 50 cents; 8 to 12 inches, 75 cents. Larger specimens in stock.

C. SPACHIANUS. A stately, ornamental sort growing to a height of 4 or 5 feet, 3 or 4 inches in diameter, with few erect branches. Very ef-

fective for outdoor planting or for the conservatory. Small plants, by mail, 75 cents; larger by express, \$1.00 per foot.

ECHINOCACTUS

E. HORIZONTHALONIUS. Globular in form, of a peculiar bluish or grayish green color. Flowers rose-purple. An attractive sort. Mailing size, 50 cents; express, 75 cents and \$1.00.

E. LECONTEI. One of the real gems of the desert. Globular in form, covered with long, curving and hooked spines, whitish to crimson. 50 cents.; express, 75 cents to \$1.50, according to size and color of spines.

E. SETISPINUS. Two to 3 inches in diameter, 3 to 4 inches high, with long, slender, hooked spines. Flowers yellow and scarlet. Said to be one of the best bloomers of the genus. 40 cents.

E. TEXENSIS. Of flattened, globular form, with dull, reddish spines. Flowers scarlet and orange below and white above. Express, 75 cents and \$1.00.

E. VIRIDESCENS. Of flattened, globular style of growth, ribs prominent, spines stout. Makes large, cushion-like plants up to 10 inches in diameter. Very ornamental. Mailing size, 40 cents; express, 75 cents and up.

ECHINOCEREUS

E. CAESPITOSUS. About 5 inches high, covered with clusters of short white spines, almost hiding the plant. Flowers purple. Good bloomer. 40 cents.

E. DASYACANTHUS. An attractive species up to 8 or 10 inches in height, covered with short, whitish or pink spines. Flowers large, corolla yellow. 40 cents; express, 75 cents and \$1.00.

E. ENNEACANTHUS. Three to 5 inches high, 1½ to 2 inches in diameter, with clusters of short spines. Flowers reddish purple, produced freely

on old plants; branching at the base, forming large clusters. Single heads, 40 cents.

E. ENGELMANNII. Up to 10 inches in height, completely covered with long, stiff spines; varying in color from white to brown and dark purplish. Flowers purplish red. A very striking species. 25, 50 and 75 cents.

E. PECTINATUS. Cylindrical in growth, up to 10 inches in height, with clusters of short, tinted spines. Flowers rosy-red. Good bloomer. Inclined to form clusters. 40 cents.

E. RIGIDISSIMUS. Rainbow Cactus. One of the most attractive of the genus on account of the color of the short spines which are commonly arranged in bands of white, red, yellow or brown. 50 and 75 cents.

ECHINOPSIS

Spherical plants of easy growth, good bloomers and very desirable for house culture.

E. EYRIESII. Flowers white, long, tubular. 40 cents.

E. MULLERI. Flowers rose. 40 cents.

E. ———. (Variety unknown). Flowers pink. 25 to 40 cents.

HYLOCEREUS

H. TRICOSTATUS. Climbing up to 10 or 12 feet. Branches three-angled, angles thin. Flowers white, nocturnal. 40 cents.

MAMMILLARIA

Small plants but a few inches in height, of which there are many species.

M. GRAHAMII. Covered with short, white spines and numerous long, dark, hooked ones. 50 cents.

M. DIOICA. Similar to the above, but longer, branching out from the base, forming clusters. Spines dull colored. 25, 40, 50 cents.

M. ———. Yellow-spined, species unknown.

A rare sort with glistening yellow spines, branching freely at the base, forming clusters. I have a few very small sizes at 75 cents each.

NYCTOCEREUS

N. SERPENTINUS. Climbing vine-like, with few branches. Flowers white, nocturnal. Does best in rather rich soil and should be trained to a trellis. 40 cents.

SELENICEREUS

S. GRANDIFLORUS. Night-blooming Cereus. Stems vine-like and should be trained to a trellis. Flowers white, very large, nocturnal. 40 cents.

S. MACDONALDIAE. Similar to the above and fully as desirable. 40 cents.

WILCOXIA

W. POSELGERI. Up to 2 feet in height. Branching. Growing from dahlia-like roots. Flowers purple. Does best when grafted on various species of Selenicereus. No stock before January.

OPUNTIA

The Opuntias naturally divide into two groups, the Indian Figs with roundish, oval, or elongated, flattened joints, and the Chollas (pronounced Choy-a) with cylindrical joints. The real Chollas I do not list on account of their viciously sharp, barbed spines. The following Opuntias are all of the Indian Fig type except where noted.

O. BASILARIS. A low species hardly more than one foot in height, branching from the base. Joints purplish and spineless. Flowers purplish and very attractive. 40 cents.

O. ERINACEA. Remarkable for the numerous white, bristle-like spines 2 to 3 inches long which nearly hide the joints. Flowers pink or yellow. 40 cents.

O. HUMIFUSA. Spreading, prostrate, with few

spines. Flowers yellow, produced in abundance. Very hardy. 40 cents.

O. LEPTOCAULIS. Two to three feet in height, branches round, pencil-like. Flowers are greenish yellow. Fruit scarlet, adding more to the attractiveness of the plant than do the flowers. 40 cents.

O. LINGUEFORMIS. Cow-tongue Cactus. A tall, branching species, with joints greatly elongated. A very striking plant. 50 cents.

O. MICRODASYS. Two to three feet in height. Joints dotted with tufts of yellow bristles. Flowers yellowish. As a house plant it is much admired and of easy growth. 40 cents.

O. MICRODASYS VAR. RUFIDA is similar to the above, with reddish bristles. 40 cents.

EPIPHYLLUM (Formerly Phyllocactus)

E. LATIFRONS. Queen Cactus. The largest of the genus, growing up to 8 or 10 feet in height, with long, broad leaves 4 to 5 inches wide. Flowers 7 to 9 inches across, petals creamy white. Nocturnal. Small plants, 50 cents.

Other Epiphyllum a matter of correspondence.

ZYGOCACTUS (Formerly Epiphyllum)

Z. TRUNCATUS. Crab cactus or Christmas cactus. Small rooted plants in January. 40 cents.

Z. SP. Species unknown. Makes strong, arching stems with long, drooping branches, in looser form than the above. Flowers as usual. Small plants, 25 cents. Very desirable.

RHIPSALIS

R. PENTAPTERA. Usually a rather small plant, branching, with 4 to 5 narrow angles, cactus-like. Rooted cuttings, 50 cents.

Succulents

AGAVE (Century Plants)

A. AMERICANA. The common Century Plant. Mailing sizes, 25 to 50 cents; larger by express.

A. AMERICANA VAR. MARGINATA. Same as the above, leaves with whitish or yellow margins. Mailing sizes, 35 to 50 cents; large by express.

Other varieties in stock.

ALOE

Aloes are somewhat of the Century Plant style of growth. They range in size from a few inches to over a foot in diameter. Some species are very handsome. They vary in color in the different species through tones of green, red, purple and brown, also striped and mottled. As pot plants they are excellent and may be planted out in full sun in summer. Some are good bloomers, also.

At present a matter of correspondence.

CRASSULA

C. FALCATA. A plant of curious style of growth. Leaves grayish green, fleshy, 3 or 4 inches long, curving edgewise to the right and left, giving a crisscross appearance. 50 cents.

C. LYCOPODIODES. Four or five inches high, branching. Resembles in form the sycopodiums (Club Mosses, Prince's Pine) of the East. Makes dense clumps of green. Very effective for pots, window boxes, etc. Small plants, 25 cents.

ECHEVERIA

E. SECUNDA GLAUCA. This plant makes a large, dense rosette, about two inches high, rather flat on top owing to the numerous upstanding leaves. Flowers on long stems, reddish yellow. Small plants, 25 cents.

EUPHORBIA

Many of the Euphorbias are among the rarest of cultivated plants. They present a great diversity of form, some being very cactus-like.

E. SP. Cactus-like, growing up to several feet in height, freely branching. \$1.00.

Other Euphorbias a matter of correspondence.

FURCRÆA

F. SELLOA. Similar to the variegated Century Plant in appearance, but differs in its rigid, narrower leaves. Leaves margined with white, becoming yellow. Makes a handsome specimen in a few years, and easy to grow. Mailing size, 50 cents.

GASTERIA

Plants of low growth. Leaves tongue or strap-shaped in two opposite, vertical rows, giving the plant a very narrow appearance. Covered with white dots or mottled with white. Small plants, 50 cents, unnamed.

HAWORTHIA

Small plants with a short stem on which the small, pointed, vertical leaves are thickly arranged, making a dense, elongated rosette. Small plants, 50 cents.

MESEMBRYANTHEMUM

M. ROSEUM. Leaves fleshy, triangular in cross section, 2 to 3 inches long, very narrow for their length. Spreads quickly forming dense masses, 6 to 8 inches high. Flowers crimson-pink, 2 inches or more in diameter, blooming profusely. Much used for bedding in southern California. Fine for boxes or tubs in the North. I see no reason why it could not be wintered in a dry, light cellar, with a very little water occasionally. It endures the extreme drought of this section. 25 cents.

Will have other varieties in January.

OTHONNA

O. CRASSIFOLIA. This is one of the best trailing plants known for tubs, window boxes, etc. Leaves round in cross section, one-fourth to one inch in length, shaped like small clubs, arranged singly or in groups along wiry stems. Flowers yellow, one-half inch in diameter, daisy-like, on slender stems. Blooms most of the time. 25 cents.

SANSEVIERIA

Z. ZEYLANICA. Leaves long, narrow, held stiffly erect, green, mottled with grayish white. Flowers whitish green. Makes attractive specimen and will stand much neglect. 35 cents.

S. ZEYLANICA VAR. LAURENTII has a creamy yellow margin along the edges of the leaves. 50 cents.

SEDUM

S. SIEBOLDII. Stems 6 to 8 inches high or creeping. Leaves 3 in a cluster, crimson-pink on the edges and under side. Spreads quickly. Flowers pink. One of the most effective plants for large pots, urns, window boxes, etc. Should be better known. The same is true of the genus in general. I will have a number of other kinds early in the coming year. 25 cents.

SEMPERVIVUM

S. ARACHNOIDEUM. Cob-web or Spider-web Houseleek. Rosettes one-half to three-fourths inch in diameter, the new ones crowded around. The tiny leaves are connected with long, soft, white hairs. Flower stem 3 or 4 inches high; flowers about one inch across; petals bright red. A very curious little plant. 25 cents.

Other varieties in stock.

STAPELIA

S. VARIEGATA. Fleshy plants with stems about one-half inch in diameter, 6 inches high,

rather square in cross section, with 4 rows of blunt teeth; branching out from the base making large clumps. Often called Toad Cactus. Flowers 5-parted, spotted with dark purple-brown. 25 cents.

Will have other species later.

YUCCA

Y. FILAMENTOSA. Spanish Bayonet. Leaves about one inch wide, long, with curly threads on the margin. Makes large clumps. Flowers almost white, inverted bell-shape, in a large cluster on a tall stalk. One of the most effective of lawn plants. Not well enough known in the North. Will stand the winters of most of New England. Small plants, 25 cents.

Other Yuccas in stock.



Miscellaneous

The following list is appended mainly in the interest of fanciers. It includes a number of rare species of which I may have a few specimens from time to time. Others I will have in abundance, as I have time to propagate them.

Aeonium Arboreum.

Aeonium Haworthii.

Aloes in variety.

Cereus Formosus Monstrosus.

Ceropegia Woodii.

Cotyledon Chrysantha.

Crassula in variety.

Echeveria Cooperi.

Echeveria Metallica.

Echeveria Weinbergii.

Euphorbias in a few species.

Gasteria Pulchra and other species.

Haworthias.

Huernia Decipiens.

Senecio Articulatus.

Mesembryanthemum Aloides.

Mesembryanthemum Lingueformis.

Mesembryanthemum Muscipolum.

Mesembryanthemum Rhomboideum.

Mesembryanthemum Superbum.

Mesembryanthemum Tigrinum.

Mesembryanthemum Trigonum.

Mesembryanthemum Truncatellum.

Opuntia Monocantha Var.

Pachyphytum Aduncum.

Pereskia Aculeata.

Pereskiopsis Spathulata.

Sedum Aureum. Also low growing kinds in ten varieties.

Sempervivum Haworthii.

Sempervivum Tournefortei.

Stapelia Gigantea.

Stapelia Hirsutum.

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